(b) if so, whether such help has been given to the ex-test cricketers from Baroda and Rajkot;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) No. Sir, however, outstanding sportspersons in indigent circumstances are eligible for financial help under the Scheme of National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons.

(b) to (d). Smt. Raniben K. Nakum widow of late Shri K.M. Nakum Test Cricketer form Rajkot is receiving a monthly pension of Rs. 250/- since June, 1990. No other applications are pending from either Baroda or Rajkot.

Air Pollution in Delhi and Other Cities

2169. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of suspended particulate matter (SPM) in the air of Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Kanpur, separately, in December, 1990 and December, 1991; and

(b) the amount spent to contain this pollution and results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) According to the air quality survey, the levels of suspended particulate matter (SPM) in these cities, except in Madras, are on the higher side. This is mainly due to natural dusty conditions and the high density of vehicular traffic.

(b) An amount of Rs. 1.38 crores towards strengthening of pollution control activities in respect of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, and Delhi has been disbursed during the VII Plan period.

The steps taken by the Government to contain air pollution include the following:-

(1) Emission standards have been prescribed.

(2) Ambient air quality standards have been evolved.

(3) A network of ambient air quality monitoring stations has been set up.

(4) Air pollution guidelines have been notified.

(5) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.

(6) Industries are being persuaded to comply with the consent requirements of the State Pollution Control Boards.

(7) Industries have been directed to instal necessary air pollution control equipment on a time-bound basis.

(8) Fiscal incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and shifting of polluting industries from congested areas.

(9) Legal action is taken against the defaulting units under the relevant Acts.

(10) Gross and mass emission standards for all vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. The Ministry of Surface Transport have advised the various State Transport Directorates to enforce the gross emission standards with effect from 1st March, 1990.

(11) Public Awareness campaigns have been launched about vehicular pollution.

(12) Every manufacturer of motor vehicles is required to submit a prototype of the vehicles manufactured for test by an agency specifier by the Government and give a certificate for conformity of production in compliance of the provision of the rules including emission standards. This provision has come into force from April 1,1991.

(13) The local authorities in the meteropolitan cities have been urged to take up large scale tree plantation as has already been initiated in and around Delhi.

Proposal for more Platforms at Delhi and Ghaziabad Stations

2170. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the covered portion on platform No. 8 - 9 towards Nizamuddin like other platforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any scheme/provision to provide more platforms at New Delhi, Nizamuddin and Ghaziabad stations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and when the work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details are being worked out. The work is likely to start in 1992-93.

[Translation]

Construction and Expansion of Working Women's Hostel

2171. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRI RATILAL VARMA:
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme with the Union Government for the construction and expansion of Working Women's Hostel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of hostels proposed to be constructed during the current year and the amount propose to be spent thereon; and

(d) the number of such hostels in Delhi at present?